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The nest and eggs of *Phylloscopus budongoensis*

by D. T. Holyoak

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The Uganda Woodland Warbler *Phylloscopus budongoensis* is a local bird of eastern Zaire, Uganda and western Kenya. Its nest and eggs have apparently not been described. This note records information on a nest found in Kakamega Forest, W. Kenya on 31 August 1989, inside tall shady forest with well developed understorey on the slight slope of a hill at c. 1700 m elevation. The incubating bird was identified very clearly, the nest being first found as a consequence of its flying out and perching nearby, and again soon afterwards as it again left the nest when I returned with Mr Marcel Holyoak to take photographs.

The domed nest was placed in a slight recess between buttresses at the base of a tree, c. 50 cm above the ground, within a hanging mat of a long pleurocarpous moss. Its external measurements were c. 19 cm high and c. 12 cm wide. The rounded entrance hole of 4.5 cm diameter was positioned towards the top of the outer facing side of the nest. The outside of the nest was built entirely of the same moss that surrounded the structure and the interior consisted of similar fragments. The deep cup was thickly lined with fibres and down from plants.

There were 3 fresh eggs, 2 of which measured c. 16.0×11.7 and 16.0×12.0 mm. They had a white ground colour, with spots and small blotches of light chestnut all over the surface, but in greater concentration around the larger end.

Photographs of the nest and eggs have been lodged with the Sub-department of Ornithology, British Museum (Natural History).

Both nest and eggs are similar to those described for other Afrotropical *Phylloscopus*, such as *P. ruficapillus* and *P. umbrovirens* (Mackworth-Praed & Grant, 1960: 386–389) and generally similar also to those of European species of this genus.

Reference:

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Discovery of the King of Saxony Bird of Paradise *Pteridophora alberti* nest, egg and nestling, with notes on parental care

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The King of Saxony Bird of Paradise *Pteridophora alberti* represents a monotypic genus of the family Paradisaeidae and is one of the most bizarrely sexually dimorphic species, in which it is assumed males are promiscuous and females alone attend the nest. It lives in cloud forest 1500–2850 m a.s.l. on the central mountains of New Guinea, from the Weyland and Snow Mountains of Irian Jaya eastward to the Bismarck and Kratke Ranges of Papua New Guinea; it is less common at its lower altitudinal limits. For details of morphology and distribution see Gilliard (1969), Cooper & Forshaw (1977) and Beehler *et al.* (1986).

The bizarre appearance of the adult plumaged male King of Saxony Bird of Paradise has attracted great interest ever since its description in 1894, which even the great British Museum ornithologist Bowdler